

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A rotary board turner comprising a conveyor having discreet board engaging means in spaced relation therealong defining board carrying spaces therebetween for carrying
5 boards aligned across a downstream flow direction,

an acceleration means for accelerating a board in a board carrying space to the downstream most end of the space,

10 a rigid stop in a board engaging position so as to engage the board in the space when at the downstream-most end of the space,

at least one driven rotator arm for engaging the underside of the board once engaged against the stop so as to rotate the board one hundred eighty degrees over the stop and
15 so as to deposit the board towards the upstream end of the board carrying space.
2. The device of claim 1 wherein said rigid stop is rigidly mounted in said board engaging position.
- 20 3. The device of claim 1 wherein said rigid stop is selectively translatable by translation means into said board engaging position.
4. The device of claim 1 wherein said conveyor is a lugged conveyor and said discreet board engaging means are a spaced array of lugs mounted on said conveyor.
25
5. The device of claim 1 wherein said acceleration means is a speed-up belt.
6. The device of claim 1 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop.

7. The device of claim 2 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop.

8. The device of claim 3 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop.

5 9. The device of claim 1 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop mounted so as to extend into said downstream flow direction to engage the board when in said board carrying space, and wherein said acceleration means has an upstream end and an opposite downstream end, and wherein said bumper stop is adjacent said downstream end of said acceleration means.

10

10. The device of claim 2 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop mounted so as to extend into said downstream flow direction to engage the board when in said board carrying space, and wherein said acceleration means has an upstream end and an opposite downstream end, and wherein said bumper stop is adjacent said downstream end of said acceleration means.

15

11. The device of claim 3 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop mounted so as to extend into said downstream flow direction to engage the board when in said board carrying space, and wherein said acceleration means has an upstream end and an opposite downstream end, and wherein said bumper stop is adjacent said downstream end of said acceleration means.

20

12. The device of claim 1 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop mounted so as to be extendable into said downstream flow direction to engage the board when in said board carrying space, and wherein said acceleration means has an upstream end and an opposite downstream end, and wherein said bumper stop is adjacent said downstream end of said acceleration means.

25

13. The device of claim 3 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop mounted so as to be extendable into said downstream flow direction to engage the board when in said board carrying space, and wherein said acceleration means has an upstream end and an opposite downstream end, and wherein said bumper stop is adjacent said downstream end of said acceleration means.

14. The device of claim 5 wherein said rigid stop is a bumper stop mounted so as to be extendable into said downstream flow direction to engage the board when in said board carrying space, and wherein said acceleration means has an upstream end and an opposite downstream end, and wherein said bumper stop is adjacent said downstream end of said acceleration means.

15. The device of claim 1 wherein said at least one driven rotator arm includes a pair of oppositely disposed rigid arms rigidly cantilevered from a driven shaft.

16. The device of claim 15 wherein said driven shaft is driven at a rotational speed which is constant relative to a translation speed of said conveyor.

17. The device of claim 16 wherein said driven shaft and said conveyor are mechanically linked to one another by driving linkage means so as to provide said constant relative speeds between said shaft and said conveyor.

18. The device of claim 1 wherein said at least one driven rotator arm is mounted cantilevered from a driven shaft and wherein said driven shaft is driven at a rotational speed which is constant relative to a translation speed of said conveyor.

19. The device of claim 18 wherein said driven shaft and said conveyor are mechanically linked to one another by driving linkage means so as to provide said constant relative speeds between said shaft and said conveyor.

20. The device of claim 1 wherein said at least one driven rotator arm is rotatably mounted on driving means mounted beneath an upper surface of said conveyor and adjacent said rigid stop.

5